

Customer Number 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 07553.0009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Michiaki SANO	`
Serial No.: 09/671,201))) Group Art Unit: 1765)
Filed: September 28, 2000	
For: PLASMA PROCESSING METHOD) Examiner: Lan Vinh

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

PETITION TO RESTART PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

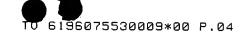
Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. § 710.06, applicants request that the period for reply to the Office Action dated <u>January 9, 2002</u>, be restarted in view of the delay in receiving the Office Action from the U.S. Postal Service.

The Office Action was presumably mailed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on <u>January 9, 2002</u>, but it was not received by the undersigned firm until <u>February 7, 2002</u>. A copy of the first page of the Office Action showing the date of receipt of the Office Action at the correspondence address stamped thereon is enclosed. All mail received at the undersigned's firm is date stamped by the mailroom before it is received by the attorney responsible for the case. Thus there is no reason to believe that the Office Action was not received on <u>February 7, 2002</u>.

Since a substantial portion of the set reply period had elapsed by the date of receipt of the Office Action (almost one (1) month) and this Petition is being filed within two weeks of the date of receipt, it is respectfully submitted that applicants are entitled to have the period for response to the Office Action of <u>January 9, 2002</u>, restarted under the provisions of M.P.E.P. § 710.06.

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If the re is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Petition, please charge such fee to our deposit account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 13, 2002

David W. Hill Reg. No. 28,220

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